

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 DPW-01 SCA-01 SS-15 EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7340

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 02845

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, VS, VN

SUBJECT: AMERICANS IN VIETNAM, FRENCH FLIGHTS

REF: STATE 021752

1. CONCERNING PARA 8 REFTTEL, QUAI INFORMS US THAT FLIGHTS WERE BRIEFLY INTERRUPTED IN EARLY JANUARY FOR TECHNICAL REASONS WHEN A NEW CARAVELLE AND DIFFERENT CREW WERE REQUIRED. AIR FRANCE HAS NOT BEEN IN CONTACT WITH DRV. AIR FRANCE HANDLES THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE FLIGHTS, BUT CONTACTS CONCERNING THE FREQUENCY OF THE FLIGHTS, ETC. ARE DIRECTLY BETWEEN THE GOF AND THE DRV (OR PRG IN SAIGON). THE ONLY GOVERNMENTAL PROBLEM WITH THE FLIGHTS WAS WITH THAILAND BECAUSE OF THE ARRIVAL IN BANGKOK OF PERSONS WITH FORGED PAPERS INDICATING THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO GO ON TO SOME OTHER COUNTRY. FRANCE AGREED TO TAKE THESE PASSENGERS BACK TO SAIGON AND THE VIETNAMESE AGREED TO ACCEPT THEM BACK. WE BELIEVE QUAI VERSION CLARIFIES POST STORY.

2. QUAI STILL BELIEVES THAT US/FRENCH CONTACTS CONCERNING PARTICULAR AMERICAN PASSENGERS, REIMBURSEMENT, AND STATISTICS ON FLIGHTS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN BANGKOK, WHICH CAN MORE QUICKLY VERIFY WHAT HAS INDEED TAKEN PLACE RATHER THAN WHAT WAS ANTICIPATED BY THE
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FRENCH MISSION IN SAIGON.

3. QUAI NOTES THAT THE FOURTH PHASE OF THE SPECIAL
FRENCH FLIGHTS WILL RUN UNTIL THE END OF FEBRUARY.
THEY BELIEVE THEY WILL EASILY NEGOTIATE PROLONGATION
ABOUT MID FEBRUARY.
GAMMON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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